

Registered L. 89

THE NUR AF SHAN

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

Vol. X.

LUDHIANA:—Sept. 21st, 1906.

No. 38

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

London, Sept. 14.

The whole of the Asir district of the Congo is under martial law.

It is pointed out that Britishers in that region are thereby greatly endangered.

The prosecutions of British missionaries are beginning.

One hundred American blue-jackets have landed at Havana, and are camped in front of the President's palace in anticipation of possible uprisings and attacks on Havana.

The American gunboat *Maritta* landed a detachment at Cienfuegos, which the insurgents are besieging.

The fortifications have already been damaged.

The blue-jackets, who were landed at Havana as the result of a conference between President Palma and the American Charge d'Affaires, subsequently returned to their ships, leaving a small Legion guard.

In pursuance of the policy of forcing the intervention of the United States the Cuban insurgents are burning an American-owned sugar mill.

The Tsar and Tsaritsa and children have left for a several days' yacht excursion in the Gulf of Finland.

Frequent earthquake shocks are taking place in Sicily, and the inhabitants of Palermo are camping out.

The Russian Government has flatly refused to pay compensation for the sinking of the *Knight Commander*.

Great Britain has suggested a reference of the whole matter to the Hague.

Russia has not yet replied.

London, Sept. 16.

The death is announced of General Trepoff from apoplexy.

Gangs of roughs are terrorising the inhabitants of Odessa and assaulting and robbing students and Jews in the streets in the presence of the police.

It is stated that the Government is organising a massacre of Jews at Warsaw.

A terrible panic prevails.

London, Sept. 15.

The French Foreign Ministry has despatched an important communication to the King of Greece which, it is understood, notifies to him the proposals of the protecting Powers for a new Commissioner of Crete and implies that the Powers will accept the resignation which Prince George has been threatening.

London, Sept. 16.

The Consuls of the protecting Powers in Crete have announced that whenever the High Commissionership becomes vacant the King of Greece will select a candidate, subject to the approval of the Powers.

London, Sept. 15.

Sharp fighting has taken place between the Government troops and the insurgents, near Havana, in which the latter were dispersed.

Secretary of State Taft leaves Washington for Cuba on the

16th instant, accompanied by Assistant Secretary Bacon, to investigate affairs and try and restore peace.

President Roosevelt, in a letter to the Cuban Minister, refers unequivocally to America's responsibility in Cuba and warns him that independence is only assurable if Cuba shows ability to maintain order and peace. Prolonged anarchy means American intervention.

London, Sept. 17.

Secretary Taft and Mr. Bacon have started for Havana after a consultation with the insurgent leaders.

The Cuban Government have announced the indefinite suspension of hostilities; the object being to make peace before Mr. Taft arrives or the United States intervenes.

There are now enough American warships in Cuban waters to land five thousand sailors in case of emergency.

General Diedrich, Commander of the Gendarmerie, has been appointed to succeed the late General Trepoff as Commandant of the Palace.

Count de Witte, who is at present in the hands of the surgeons, has already had five operations on him for polypus in the throat, and others may be necessary.

Three cases of sleeping sickness at Leopoldville have been cured by the injection of strychnine.

M. Gammere, the American Minister in Morocco, has started for Fez on a special mission.

London, Sept. 31.

A disastrous typhoon has struck Hongkong harbour doing great damage to shipping.

Three British steamers and one German steamer were sunk; and two other British vessels, including the Canadian Pacific Company's steamer *Montangle*, besides four German steamers and an American sailing ship, are ashore.

Many lives have been lost.

The Tsar returns from his cruise tomorrow and attends the funeral of General Trepoff.

The German Ambassador at St. Petersburg has made representations to the Russian Government regarding the murder of a German manufacturer at Riga and also regarding the general anarchy prevailing in the Baltic Provinces.

Anarchy reigns supreme at Odessa.

The Terrorists there attempted to set fire to the political prison, firing with revolvers on the policemen.

The news from Cuba is meagre, but President Palma and his advisers appear to be making desperate efforts to come to an understanding with the insurgents before the arrival of Mr. Secretary Taft and Mr. Assistant Secretary Bacon. The rebel leaders, however, are disinclined to accept the Government's proposals.

The Cuban insurgents have destroyed several bridges on the British railway.

Great forests near Cannes are on fire and already upwards of forty thousand acres have been burnt.

The troops are endeavouring to limit the fire, which is fanned by high wind.

A hundred men have been wounded in the mutiny on the Turkish troopship *Assy* at Port Said yesterday.

Further trouble took place to-day which was suppressed.

The *Times*, in closing the correspondence regarding the alleged impoverishment of India, concludes by saying that British rule has arrested or largely reduced every one of the evils which were draining the wealth of the country a hundred years ago.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The North India Conference of Christian Workers for Bible Study, Prayer, Devotional Addresses and the Discussion of Practical Methods of Work will be held in Mussoorie from Sept. 19th to Sept. 26th.

The programme of the various meetings to be held in connection with this Conference is as follows:

PROGRAMME.

WED., Sept. 19th... "Devotional Address," REV. J. PENGWERN JONES.

"Industrial Work"... REV. E. L. PORTER.
THUR. ,, 20th... "Devotional Address," REV. J. PENGWERN JONES.

"Work amongst the Young" REV. J. I. HASLER
FRI. ,, 21st ... "Missionary Meeting"
REV. W. G. PROCTOR, REV. J. PENGWERN JONES.

SAT. ,, 22nd ... "Social Gathering"
At Soldier's Furlough Home.

MON. ,, 24th... "Devotional Address," REV. J. F. T. HALLOWES.

"The Present demand for
Christian Education"

REV. J. P. HAYTHORNTHWAITER.
TUES. ,, 25th ... "Devotional Address," MISS HEWLETT.
"Christian Aggression in
Mahomedan Fields," REV. W. GOLDSACK.

WED. ,, 26th ... "Work amongst the
Deaf and Dumb" ... MISS SWAINSON.
"Work amongst the Blind"... MISS HEWLETT.
"Devotional address"

REV. W. E. S. HOLLAND.

The General Meetings of the Conference will be held each day in the Union Church, Mussoorie, at 4.30 p. m.

In addition to these services, Bible Study Classes will be conducted every day in the Kellogg Memorial Church, at Edge Hill, and at Baring Institute.

While climbing one day over a rough hillside a man came upon a little spring, whose waters, trickling away under stones and rubbish, were finally lost in a rocky gulch. The tiny stream was complaining to itself that, unlike its sisters, in more beautiful situations, there was no light and sparkle upon its surface and no one admired its little eddies.

The man said to it "Little Brook, you are hiding away among the stones where no plant can reach you to quench its thirst and no bird can come to refresh its plumage, it is

no wonder that your beauty is lost and that men pass by without praising you."

The stream replied "What am I to do? I run where I have been put by my Maker."

The man, who was daily studying that Maker's designs and daily accomplishing some new thing, paused for a moment and then said "Do you wish to be useful to others?"

The brooklet had not thought very much about usefulness while murmuring along in its narrow bed, but it replied "Yes."

The man then set to work and prepared a channel along the side of the hill leading to a bit of more level ground. On this ground he made terraces connected by short runnels and edged with little embankments to hold back the water. After everything was finished, he said to the brook "Now little stream are you ready for work?"

The brook had fear at its heart because it did not know what was coming, but it replied as bravely as it could "Yes, I am ready."

With that the man began to pile stones and earth in the bed of the stream until the water had to cease flowing in its ordinary course; and, because of the disturbance it had become muddy. The brooklet who was vain in spite of its insignificance began to complain that the man had spoiled its appearance. The man said nothing, and by and by the water reached the height of the new channel and began to flow on to the dry ground which had been prepared for seed. It was not pleasant work for the little brook, for the soil was very dry and it took a long while to reach the lowest terrace from which it was free to wander again as it chose; but remembering what it had said, the stream flowed on steadily and patiently. Not many days later the tiny blades of rice began to appear, and soon the whole plot of ground was like a bit of green velvet on the hillside, and the stream itself like a bright silver braid on its edge. The water was too busy now to notice that it was sparkling and bubbling in the sunshine, but one day the man's children came by, and standing at the place where the brooklet leaped from the lowest terrace and ran down the hillside, they clapped their hands and said "O father this is the prettiest of all." Then the little stream knew that the way of work and usefulness to others was also the way to beauty, and instead of complaining as it used to do it laughed and sang its thanks to its Maker and to the man who had led it out of its old narrow bed into the channel by the rice field daily growing and ripening into food for men and beast.

THE SIALKOT CONVENTION.

The Sialkot Convention of 1906 was unique in many respects. The invitation was issued at first to the Christians of the Panjab and adjoining Districts, but so much prayer was offered up for the Convention by thousands of people that the faith of the Committee was strengthened and a trumpet call was sounded uniting all men, Christians and non-Christians, from any part of the world to attend, and God rewarded the faith of the Committee, for a very large crowd came together and some from very long distances. The 1905 Convention was considered a successful one (as to number) when only 300 were present, but this year the number had increased to over 1300, besides 60 or 70 missionaries. Some came for a part of the time and returned so as to allow other workers in their stations to attend.

The speakers could not have attracted men, for with two or three exceptions all who spoke were from the Panjab or neighbourhood, and the two or three that came from a distance were simple, ordinary speakers and had to speak through interpreters, so it is very clear that so many people were drawn together by the power of the Gospel, and the blessings received were the direct gifts of the Holy Spirit. We hardly think that a single person left the Convention without a blessing and many returned to their stations as new men, and we know that the fruit will be seen in the Panjab and other places for many years to come.

It is difficult to describe the way in which the Spirit worked. Some were disappointed at first, for many expected that the Holy Spirit would be proved with irresistible power on the congregation at one of the services and that man would be compelled to bend and submit to God, but this was not the way the Spirit came. Something of this was felt on the first Sunday Evening, for the feelings of many were so intense and the confession of sin so general that some realized more blessing than they had anticipated, but it was at the Prayer Meeting after the Service that this Revival wave was experienced and not during the actual preaching of the Word. The Spirit worked as Christ worked when on earth among individuals and among groups of men. There were scores of cases in the Prayer Room where men entered into the fulness of light, and wherever we went in the large Mission Compound, individuals or parties of two or three could be seen weeping and praying. It was a grand sight to see the earnestness of many experienced Christians trying to lead others to yield themselves fully to Christ.

No doubt the great power of the Convention was centred in the Prayer Room and not the Preaching Hall, or perhaps we should say the Prayer Rooms, for during the greater part of the Convention the women had set apart a

tent as their place for prayer, though many of the women continued to attend the general Prayer Room. The Scotch Pres. Church had been placed at the disposal of the Committee for this purpose and there the voices of prayer and praise was constantly heard, day and night, during the whole days of the Convention, indeed the work in the Prayer Room commenced the day before the Convention and men continued still in this room praising God when we were leaving, the day after the Convention had closed. Some of God's people felt that the Holy Spirit had called them to be special watchmen and so they never went to bed the whole 10 days, and only joined the other Missionaries at table perhaps once or twice during the whole time, not that they fasted the whole time, for God moved some of His servants to attend to the physical wants of His watchmen, nor did they keep awake the whole time for when they saw that others were on the alert they slept and God gave His beloved sleep. We do not wish any to think that these people were making martyrs of themselves, but quite the reverse, they considered that they were the most highly privileged persons of the Convention. One man felt that he enjoyed the Prayer Room so much and the company of God's people was so sweet there that he feared lest Christ should take a second place in his thoughts, so he left the room and spent the greatest part of one day in private prayer. Another felt that he had disobeyed God by failing to watch as he should have done and God punished him by leading him out of the room, but it was only to serve God by ministering to Him in other ways. All who entered the Prayer Room felt that it was a sacred spot, that *Christ Himself was present* for even the very atmosphere seemed to be full of the spirit of praise and prayer.

Many noticed how God specially attacked those that came to the Convention to mock and to criticize, several had evidently come for this purpose, some openly boasted of it, but oh the agony they passed through when they realized what a terrible sin they were committing, and it is believed that every one of these men experienced this overpowering conviction and returned home humbled men.

Reference was made at one of the earliest services to Gethsemane, how the road to Pentecost was through Gethsemane and Calvary, and many, many entered Gethsemane or entered deeper into it at the Sialkot Convention, some for their own sins and some burdened with the sins of others, and some were led into it in a way that they never anticipated. We shall never forget the agonizing cry of one Missionary lady, the two men that had come to the Convention from her district were looking on with curiosity and amusement at men and women who were crying and weeping on account of their sins and this lady realized their danger, and realized also to some extent what Gethsemane is, and



her agony was not in vain for some days afterwards these men were blessed.

A band of men from one village was brought by the Missionary to the Convention, for the first few days no impression whatever was made upon them and the Missionary looked sad and troubled and he felt that he himself was not getting any blessing either, but many prayers were offered for this party and all felt that such a longing desire would not be dishonoured by our Loving Father, for it must have been the Holy Spirit that had created the longing, and one day the news came that at a little meeting in the Prayer Room that the Spirit had taken hold of them and that several, if not all of the party had become changed men. It was not necessary to ask the Missionary whether he had been blessed for his beaming face showed it. We hope to hear that these men have carried the fire to their village and that much blessing will follow.

Many of God's children realized at this Convention for the first time what the "BURDEN OF SOULS" is. At the last service or rather after the last service, almost all the Missionaries and some of the Indian Christians moved towards the Prayer Room and there we had a memorable time together. God was evidently in our midst, what earnest prayers were offered, what anguish some passed through on account of the hardness of their hearts, but when an Indian sister asked for prayer on behalf of a near and dear relative, that the Spirit of intercession seemed to be poured on all present, and many had an insight into the agony of Gethsemane which can never be forgotten. How one after another prayed for that misguided sinner. Some of us realized for the first time how the sins of an entire stranger could become a real burden to us, oh the heart-rending cries of many present for that person, many wept like children, others groaned under the burden and most of us had the assurance that God had heard our prayers, and some one suggested that we should praise God for what He was going to do for that erring soul, and oh how the Spirit turned hearts of all present and what praise and joy resounded in that Prayer Room and the singing was re-echoed well sure by the angels in Heaven, and the features of the young lady who made the request seemed to be full of peace and joy.

What wonderful revelations were given to men at the Convention, spiritual visions revealed directly by the Spirit of God. One man who spent hours in prayer in a crowded place, when asked how he could keep his mind on the Saviour in the midst of such surroundings, said, that he had such a vision of Christ that he forgot everything else, and the description of Christ that he gave made us realize that he had indeed come from the very presence of God, every word seemed to be illuminated by the Spirit. Oh that we could spend more time with God, what revelations we would enjoy.

It was very remarkable how the Convention ended with praise. During the first days there was a great deal of singing going on but not much praise; the last days there was less noise but more praise, there was a ring of joy and praise in every sound. . . One of the speakers at last year's Convention, and also at this year's gathering constantly reminded the people that it was their duty to praise. Scores of times he said:—"Surrounded men with an atmosphere of praise and the evil one cannot get at them." On the last day of the Convention a man in the congregation had a vision, he saw millions of angels praising Christ, and God told him to tell the people to praise more and to speak less. He told God that he could not deliver the message and his agony was painful to witness, God commanding him to deliver the message and he refusing. Then God told him to ask some one else to deliver the message and this he did. We think there can be no doubt that God spoke to the man, the moment he tried to tell us that he had seen, he burst into tears. He said that he could not understand how God had spoken to him for he felt so unworthy that he had not even dared to pray at the meetings, and so how could he deliver a Divine Message. The closing address of the Convention was on the same subject, though the speaker had prepared quite another address, but the Spirit gave him a message on praise, it was all of God and not of man "Oh that men would praise the Lord." We make a mistake to wait until after the victory has been won; let us praise before the victory, let the anticipation of victory tune our hearts to sing His praise. The Convention closed with praise so we know that a glorious victory is coming.

Dr. J. G. Duerdon has recently been studying one of these polype-carrying crabs (*melis tessellata*) in Hawaii. He finds that this crab does not confine itself to one species of anemone for it will discard a small polype of one species to take up a larger one of another species. Food given to the anemone was appropriated by the crab, which picked it from among the tentacles of the former with its first pair of walking legs. The crab seemed to have no use for its claws, except to hold the anemones, and its pair of legs seemed to be modified to perform the normal function of the claws. It is concluded that the advantages to the crab in this curious partnership are food and protection, while the anemone obtains the benefit of being thus carried into regions richer in food. The advantage to the latter, however, seems a little dubious. Another crab which enters into a similar strange partnership with an anemone is known as *polydictus eupulifera*.

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DR. TORRY'S ADVICE TO THE CONVERTED.

Dr. Torrey gives five points which Christians should ever bear in mind:

"First—Keep looking at Jesus. Don't look at any man—look at Jesus. If you are troubled about your sins, look at Jesus on the cross and know all your sins were settled there. If you are tempted to sin, look at Jesus on the throne and know that he has power to keep. If you are puzzled as to what to do, look at Jesus and ask what he would have you do.

"Second—Keep confessing Jesus every opportunity you get. The more you make of Jesus, the more he will make of you.

"Third—Keep studying your Bible, at least fifteen minutes every day.

"Fourth—Keep praying. Pray the first thing in the morning before you meet any one else. Pray the last thing at night. Pray when you are tempted. Every time you feel like it, pray! Every time you don't feel like it, pray!"

"Fifth—Go to work. The working Christian is the strong Christian. Jesus has saved you, now go out and try to save some one else."

Dr. Torrey finally urges them to join some church, chapel or mission, in order that they may cast in their lot with fellow-Christians and make progress by being put to work in some department of church life.

—Bismarck says:—"If I did not believe in a divine order which has destined the German nation for something good and great I would forthwith go out of the diplomatic business, or I would never have entered it. To what original to ascribe the sense of duty, I know not except to God. Orders and titles have no charms for me. The firm stand that for ten years I have taken against all possible absurdities of the Court I owe purely to my decided faith. Take from me this faith and you take from me my country. If I were not a Christian and a firm believer, if I had not the miraculous basis of religion, you would never have had such a Chancellor. Give me a successor on this basis and I retire at once. Take away from me my relation to God, and I am the man to pack up to-morrow and be off for Varzin to grow my oats."

The prevailing impression that health conditions on the Panama isthmus are not favorable is contradicted in an interesting article in "Harper's Weekly," by Colonel W. C. Gorgas, U. S. A., Chief Sanitary Officer

in the Canal Zone. Colonel Gorgas tells of the work that has been accomplished by the Sanitary Department in improving the health conditions on the isthmus; and he shows, by actual figures, that Panama is healthier than many American cities. For whereas New York city, in one year, had a death-rate of 20 per thousand, Philadelphia 21 per thousand, and Washington 22 per thousand, Panama had, during a similar period, a death-rate of only 14 per thousand. Colonel Gorgas believes that on account of the sanitary work done, yellow fever will soon be exterminated from the canal zone.

The great Minister of the Hague wrote "that all good and great things in the world are brought to pass by care and order, and that the end of all wisdom is happiness." How to be happy in daily life is a big thing, the biggest thing perhaps we can ponder over on this earth, and yet one that few people pause to consider in the hurry and press of life. "For the true end of riches (next to doing good) is ease and pleasure, whereas so often we find by the increase of modern wealth only a greater amount of care and trouble."

To be rich wisely, living at times almost austere, is the great secret we suspect—for, as has been justly said, 'the fool thinks of what he wants, the philosopher of what he can do without,' and only very wise folk know "how to reap the fullest harvest of golden ears."

An Irishman one day went into a barber's shop to get shaved. After he was seated and the lather about half applied, the barber was called to an adjoining room, where he was detained for some time. The barber had in the shop a pet monkey, which was continually imitating its master. As soon as the latter left the room the monkey grabbed the brush and proceeded to finish lathering the Irishman's face. After doing this he took a razor from its case and stropped it, and then turned to the Irishman to shave him. "Shtop that!" said the latter, firmly. "Ye can tuck the towel in me neck and put the soap on me face, but, begorrah, yer father's got to shave me!"

A ladies' committee, desirous of collecting money for a good object, asked all its members to earn five shillings. When the money was paid each donor was asked to state what the hard work had been that had gained the five shillings. One had several cakes, another had knitted two pairs of socks; a third had painted a picture. "How did you earn your money?" was asked of one woman. "I got it from my husband," she replied. "Oh, that won't do; there was no hard work about that." The woman smiled a weary smile. "Oh, wasn't there? You don't know my husband!"



ANECDOTE IN BRIEF.

To be enlarged in the meeting, with comment.

An old painter of Sienna, after standing for a long time in silent meditation before his canvass, with hands crossed meekly on his breast and head bent reverently low, turned away saying, "May God forgive me that I do not do it better!" We can all say that of our past year's work, not despondently, but hopeful that He will not only forgive us, but enable us to do the next work better.

"I am ashamed that I fell," said a man whom Christ had rescued from the curse of drink, and who had become intoxicated again. "I have learned this lesson: I am not as strong as I thought I was." That is a humiliating lesson, but a very valuable one for all of us.

There is a story of a boy who left his home and went to the city alone for the first time. He set out with forebodings, but everything turned out better than his fears. The conductor was kind. A stranger sat beside him and described the places they passed. A driver who knew exactly where he wanted to go was at the city station. When it was all over, he learned that his father had been with him all the day, in another car, planning things for his comfort and sending helpful persons to him. Is not that the way God has been with us all the year?

Miss Anna Woodruff Jones wrote recently from Osaka, Japan:

We are constantly hearing very interesting stories from those who are working among the soldiers. One, who was just about to start for the war, came with a little piece of a thorn-bush to an English missionary out in the country, and asked if she could tell him about the man who wore a crown made of that. She asked him where he had heard about it, and he said that a long time before he had seen the picture of a man wearing a crown made of thorns, that he never could forget it, and that he had asked many people if they knew anything about it, and finally some one had said that it had something to do with Christianity. The soldier then came to the missionary, listened most eagerly to the story, and in three weeks went off to Manchuria, a rejoicing Christian.

Every traveller knows that he gets but a poor picture of a country as he approaches it and passes through it. But when he has mounted to some hilltop and has paused to rest from the heat and fatigue of the journey, and casts a backward glance over the road, then it is that he appreciates for the first time the beauty of the landscape, and he is entranced with the panorama spread out before him, where he remembered only a dusty road and a broiling sun. Is it not so with our past year's journey in Christian Endeavor? The hardships and heartaches and disappointments of the year look quite different now, from the summit of this New Year week.

A MAGPIE'S GRATITUDE.

—A magpie belonging to a lady in Somersetshire has been in the habit of receiving dainty mouthfuls from the mouth of his mistress, perching on her shoulder, and then inserting his beak between her lips. The other day he took up his customary perch, but instead of seeking a tit-bit from his mistress, the grateful bird dropped a plump caterpillar into her mouth.

They have discovered a new cure for drunkenness in Argentina. In many towns, when a man is arrested for inebriety by the policeman on the beat, he is sentenced to sweep the streets for eight days. According to report, the shame of the same often works a reform. In this country, also, people are inclined to avoid a brush with the police.

Coasting vessels report that an oil fire has been burning for several days in the Gulf of Mexico, near the Texan coast. The flames cover an area of about ten square miles, and are supposed to be fed by an oil spring at the bottom of the gulf.

Mr. Wardle, who has been sinking artesian wells in different parts of British Guiana, while sinking one on the island of Wakenaam, at the mouth of the Essequibo River, came across natural gas at the depth of slightly over 80ft. On the surface of the pool round the pipe petroleum floated in large quantities.

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